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STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING

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Dear Michigan Birthing Hospital:

In the wake of the Zika virus and the potential impact on Michigan families, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) would like to take this opportunity to provide valuable Zika-related information, resources, and guidance. While Michigan is not known to have the mosquito vectors that carry the Zika virus within the state, Zika remains a risk for Michigan travelers to affected countries. Currently, travel to the affected countries as identified by the World Health Organization (WHO) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (See CDC link below) is not recommended for pregnant women. Further, there is a known risk of sexual transmission from infected males to their sex partners; on July 15, 2016 the CDC confirmed the first case of female to male transmission. To date, there have been 14 confirmed cases of travel-related Zika virus in our state. It is imperative that every opportunity to educate patients is taken.

In response to the emergence of Zika virus, the MDHHS laboratory provides an **Emerging Arbovirus Panel** that includes diagnostic testing for the following travel-associated viruses: Zika, dengue, chikungunya. Test methodologies available include polymerase chain reaction (PCR) assays for the detection of viral nucleic acid in serum, and an IgM antigen-capture (MAC) ELISA assay for the detection of IgM in serum (or cerebral spinal fluid if a serum is also submitted). Additionally, urine, CSF, and amniotic fluid samples can now be submitted for Zika PCR if they are accompanied by a serum sample. Healthcare providers must contact their local health department or the MDHHS Emerging Zoonotic and Infectious Diseases Section to request Zika virus testing for Michigan residents. This process assures that the appropriate tests are ordered and that specimens are correctly collected, labeled, processed, packaged, and transported. Public health agencies will assist providers with deciding on the appropriate test and completing the required forms.

Zika virus testing is indicated when any of the following criteria are met:

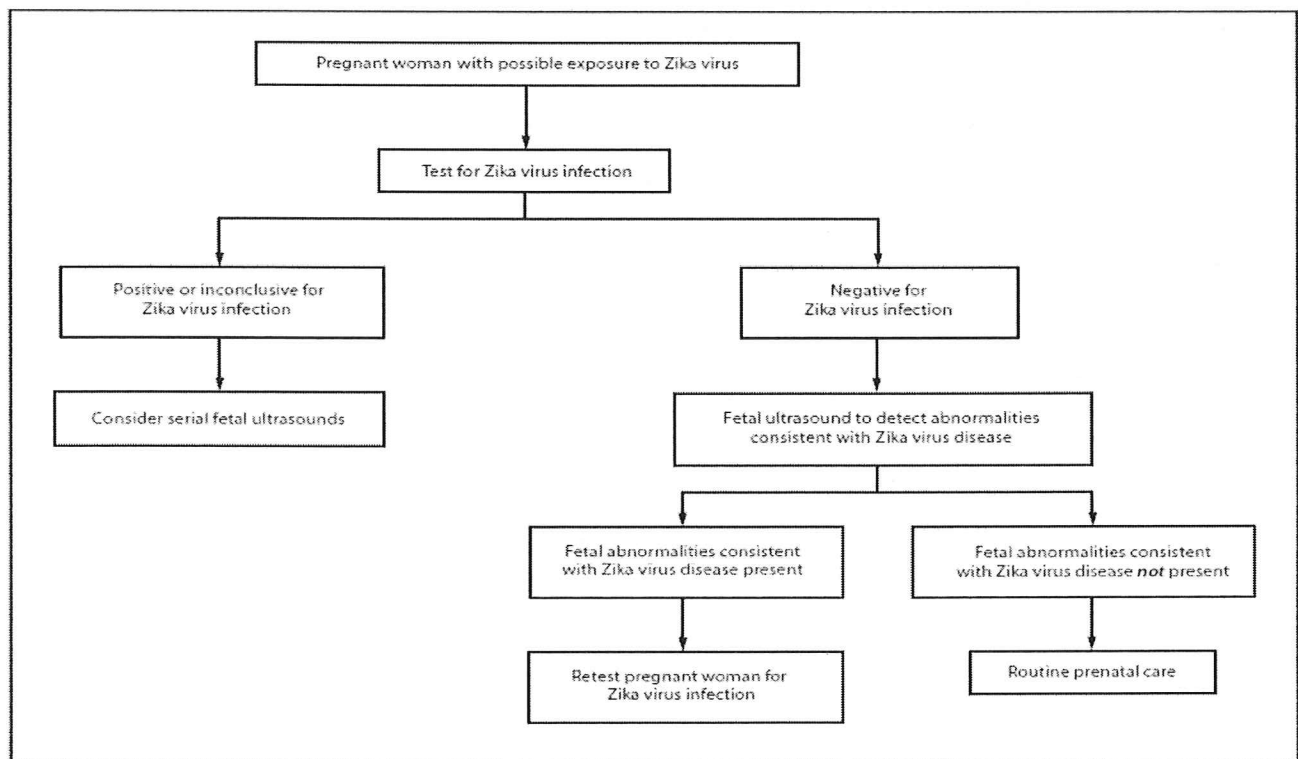
- 1) A **pregnant woman** who has:
 - History of travel to an area with ongoing Zika virus transmission*
 - i. And has clinical illness consistent with Zika virus infection (**one** or more of the following: fever, rash, joint pain, red irritated eyes) within two weeks of travel
 - ii. Or has no symptoms, and is **within 2-12 weeks after their return from travel**
 - Had sex without a condom with a male partner with possible Zika virus exposure*
 - i. And develops at least one of the following signs of Zika virus disease: fever, rash, joint pain, red irritated eyes

- ii. Or her male partner has been diagnosed with Zika virus disease or developed a clinical illness consistent with Zika virus disease (one or more of the following: fever, rash, joint pain, red irritated eyes)

[Testing is not currently recommended for pregnant women with possible sexual exposure to Zika virus **if both partners are asymptomatic.**]

- 2) A person who has a history of travel to an area with ongoing Zika virus transmission* and has a clinical illness consistent with Zika virus infection (**one** or more of the following: fever, rash, joint pain, red irritated eyes) within two weeks of travel
- 3) A fetus or infant with suspected or confirmed microcephaly or intracranial calcifications (diagnosed prenatally or at birth) **whose mother:**
 - Spent time in an area with active Zika virus transmission*
 - During pregnancy, had unprotected vaginal, anal, or oral sex with a partner who spent time in an area with active Zika virus transmission*
- 4) A person who developed Guillain-Barré syndrome after spending time in an area with active Zika virus transmission*

Please see the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention figure below for recommendations for testing pregnant women with possible Zika virus exposure.



Zika Pregnancy Registry

MDHHS is collaborating with the CDC, local health departments and healthcare facilities to:

- Ensure training and educational materials reach pregnant women and their healthcare providers.
- Ensure that Zika-infected pregnant women are identified and reported to the CDC's National Zika Pregnancy Registry.

The Zika Pregnancy Registry includes information on both the mother and her infant.

The Zika Pregnancy Registry enrolls:

- Pregnant women with laboratory evidence of Zika infection (inconclusive as well as positive) regardless of symptoms, and their prenatally or perinatally exposed infants.
- Infants with laboratory evidence of congenital Zika infection (with positive or inconclusive test results) regardless of symptoms, and their mothers.
- Information collected will include pregnancy loss, being early miscarriage or stillbirth.

MDHHS will work with the provider of record to follow-up on laboratory evidence of Zika virus infection in pregnant women to facilitate enrollment. As women are enrolled in the Zika pregnancy registry, follow up will be conducted with the obstetrician or primary care provider for the woman and with her child's pediatrician to monitor for any Zika associated effects.

Similarly, the birth defects registry within MDHHS will be conducting follow back on any newborns reported with Zika associated birth defects to obtain additional information on these children to enable properly classifying each case and assessing the possibility of an association with Zika.

Please see the resource links below for the most up-to-date information.

CDC Webinar/Teleconference archives: <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/public-health-partners/zap-teleconferences.html>

MDHHS Zika information: <http://www.michigan.gov/emergingdiseases/>

CDC Zika information: www.cdc.gov/zika

ACOG Zika information (includes ACOG Practice Advisory revised June 13, 2016):
<http://www.acog.org/About-ACOG/ACOG-Departments/Zika-Virus>

Please do not hesitate to contact me for any questions or concerns as the epidemiology and practice recommendations around this virus evolve.

Sincerely,


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